

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/065,456 Confirmation No. 4033
Applicant : Toshio Kawai
Filed : October 19, 2002
T.C./A.U. : 1637
Examiner : Christopher M. Babic
Docket No. : 20.001-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.113 and 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action of August 28, 2006, made final, in the above-identified patent application, Applicant requests entry of the following amendment—which makes two slight revisions to the single pending independent claim to distinguish the present invention further, yet does not raise any new issues—and consideration of the following further arguments as to the patentable merits of the invention as claimed. It is believed that such consideration would not require further search of the prior art, and thus would not put an unwarranted, post-final-action burden on the Office.

Along with a petition for a one-month extension of time, this reply is being filed on January 29, 2007, the first business day following the Sunday, January 28, 2007 date that is four calendar months from the mailing date of the Office action, and is therefore timely filed.

AMENDMENT Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.